

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~.

Please REPLACE the paragraph at page 2, lines 12 and 13 with the following paragraph:

This object is achieved by the respective combinations of features of ~~claims 1 to 4~~ the dependent claims.

Please REPLACE the paragraph at page 3, lines 11-14 with the following paragraph:

During operation of a gripper ~~9~~1 according to the application, frames can thus be received without any problem in a densely occupied cassette and can be fixed relative to the gripper by virtue of vacuum fixing in the aligned state.

Please REPLACE the paragraph at page 3, lines 19 and 20 with the following paragraph:

Fig. 2 shows the front view of a cassette 9 with transverse slots ~~40~~12 for the horizontal storage of frames 2 one above the other; and

Fig. 3 shows a cross-section in a vertical direction through frame 2.

Please REPLACE the paragraph at page 3, lines 21-32 with the following paragraph:

Fig. 1 shows an example of embodiment of a gripper 1 according to the invention. Said gripper has in this case two fingers 10 for holding the frame 2. The vacuum openings 5, by means of which suction can be exerted on the film 3, are arranged in the outer region of the film 3, that is to say close to the outer edge of the film adjacent to the inner edge of the annular frame 2. The vacuum openings 5 have an upward-facing opening with a slightly raised height which goes beyond the upper surface of the ~~frame~~ gripper 1, so that they are securely in contact with the film 3. The fingers 10 provided with the flattened finger tips 8 grip in partial regions in each case below the frame 2 and the film 3. The design of the finger tips 8 serves for better insertion between the various frames 2 in a cassette 9.